



Patent Application
2771-272 CIP

1763
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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States Patent Application of:

Applicant: BAUM, Thomas H., et al.

Application No.: 09/874,102

Date Filed: June 5, 2001

Title: PLASMA-ASSISTED DRY
ETCHING OF NOBLE
METAL-BASED MATERIALS

Docket No.: ATMI-272 CIP
(7482)

Examiner: OLSEN, Allan W.

Art Unit: 1763

Confirmation No.: 6818

Customer No.: 25559

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on March 3, 2004, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and Express Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.10.

Katrina T. Holland

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March 3, 2004

Date

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**RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 3, 2003 OFFICE ACTION
IN UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION NO. 09/874,102**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the December 3, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application.

Please amend the specification of the application as set out in the following **Section I (Amendments to the Specification)**.

Please amend the claims of the application as set out in the following **Section II (Amendments to the Claims)**.

Remarks addressing the various issues raised in the December 3, 2003 Office Action are set out in **Section III (Remarks)** hereof.